



Meeting Date: May 1, 2024

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Report No: PWE 19-2024

Subject: Adoption of The Transportation Master Plan

Recommendation:

THAT Report PWE 19-2024, re: Adoption of The Transportation Master Plan be received;
AND THAT Council adopt the Transportation Master Plan as appended to Report PWE 19-2024.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to request Council adopt the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) as the guiding document for transportation infrastructure, policy and program implementation within the municipality.

Background:

On February 7, 2024 The Municipality of Middlesex Centre Council adopted in principle the Municipality's first standalone Transportation Master Plan, and placed it on the record for 30 day review. The TMP builds on the recently completed efforts surrounding the [Official Plan Review](#), adoption of the [Asset Management Plan](#), [2021 Development Charges Update Study](#), as well as the vision and priorities established through Councils [Strategic Plan](#).

Analysis:

Master Plans are long range plans which integrate infrastructure requirements for existing and future land use with environmental assessment planning principles. These plans examine an infrastructure system or group of related projects in order to outline a framework for planning and for subsequent projects and/or developments. The Middlesex Centre TMP completed by Arcadis/IBI Consulting set out to establish the vision for transportation services, assesses existing transportation system performance, forecasts future travel demand and define actions and policies to address specific transportation needs within the rural and urban areas. It reviews and provides the need and justification

to invest in transportation infrastructure, including rural and urban roads, walking and cycling network, safety, transit, parking, among other needs. The purpose of the TMP will be to provide a vision and the policy framework for a multi-modal transportation system that will meet travel demands in Middlesex Centre based on a horizon year of 2046 in a manner that is sustainable and compatible with future growth plans for the Municipality, Middlesex County, and the Province of Ontario.

The Transportation Master Plan follows approach #1, of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment which integrates it with the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process such that it fulfils Phases 1 and 2 for the individual projects within this master plan.

The Transportation Master Plan was built using the feedback and consultation with the public, stakeholders, First Nations, and Council. The information, comments, suggestions, and discussions had with these various groups helped inform the vision and direction of this plan and laid out guiding principles for how residents and stakeholders wish to see transportation infrastructure improvements, policy and planning take place. Following Councils endorsement of the Transportation Master Plan in February the TMP was posted for 30 days for public review and comment in accordance with the Municipal Class EA process. A summary of comments and responses, to the TMP document can be found in the Engagement Summary (attached as Appendix -E), Exhibit 5.1. There were only three respondents to the 30-day review.

Upon formal adoption of the Transportation Master Plan staff will look to implement the Transportation Master Plan and use it to provide guidance for long term planning and improvement of the existing road network and will assist in the preparation of capital programs to build on the vision and action items identified through public consultation and contained in the TMP.

The TMP also supports the Official Plan and has consideration for the growth of the municipality over the coming years. This plan will support transportation including the movement of people and goods by all travel modes: car and truck, rail, public transit, cycling, walking and more.

This is the first standalone Transportation Master Plan for the Municipality of Middlesex Centre. The TMP will help ensure that both current needs and evolving travel conditions are responded to, and the changing demographics and priorities of the Municipality and its residents are reflected. While Middlesex Centre has traditionally been, and still is, largely an agricultural community, today the municipality also boasts vibrant and growing urban centres, as well as a resilient farming community and an attractive rural landscape.

Financial Implications:

Projects were grouped across three planning horizons identified in the TMP (Short, Medium, Long). All projects identified in the TMP will need budget approval through Council and the annual budget process, exhibit 12.1 of Appendix A lists all projects identified in the Transportation Master Plan. The costs and action items identified reflect the feedback and priorities of residents, and stakeholders and will help guide staff and Council in allocating financial resources and prioritizing projects and actions.

The projects and costs will also be incorporated into the development charges study currently underway, and asset management plan (where applicable).

Strategic Plan:

This matter aligns with following strategic priorities:

- Sustainable Infrastructure and Services

This project will ensure a robust, safe, and efficient transportation network that builds on Councils Strategic Plan and the Middlesex Center's Official plan, providing a long-term blueprint to facilitate budgeting and to help manage growth.

Attachments:

Appendix A – Transportation Master Plan Summary

Appendix B – Phase 1 Needs and Opportunities

Appendix C – Transportation Network Development

Appendix D – Public Opinion Survey Summary

Appendix E – Engagement Summary